(c) and (d) Some of the imports in India consist of products on which further value is added for exports. The prinicipal products of exports using imported inputs for value addition include gems & jewellery, petroleum products, cashewnuts etc. Imports of inputs not only makes exports possible at competitive prices but also generates additional employment in the domestic economy.

Promotion of business with USA, China and Russia

242. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have explored further possibilities to promote business with U.S.A., China and Russia during the last three months;

(b) if so, the names of items whose export and import is possible with these countries; and

(c) the other areas where business can be promoted and the facilities proposed to be provided by Government to Indian businessmen for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) to (c) The position in respect of Promotion of Business with USA, China and Russia is as follows:—

USA Expansion of Indo-US trade is a sustained and continuous effort of the Government. Areas that have received particular attention are gems and jewellery, textiles and apparel, pharmaceuticals, chemicals, marine products, engineering goods including auto and auto parts, processed agricultural items and leather and leather products. Information Technology enabled services, biotechnology and other knowledge based industries are some of the other identified thrust areas.

Trade facilitation is a continuous and ongoing process. Efforts are regularly made to expand and diversify trade through various trade promotion measures such as market research, information dissemination, Buyer-Seller Meets, Participation in important trade fairs etc.

CHINA Steps being taken, on an on-going basis, for promotion of business with China include participation in trade fairs/exhibitions, exchanges of delegations at both governmental and business levels,